

Halsey Stevens House
182 Grand Street
Newburgh
Orange County
New York

HABS No. NY-6232

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HALSEY STEVENS HOUSE

HABS No. NY-6232

Location: 182 Grand Street, Newburgh, Orange County,
New York

Present Owner: Raymond Rowles
22 Pierce's Road
Newburgh, New York

Present Use: Offices and apartments.

Significance: A Gothic-Revival house designed by Calvert Vaux
and Frederick Withers for Halsey R. Stevens,
Village Trustee of Newburgh and Director of the
Highland Bank.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: c.1852-1857.
2. Architect(s): Calvert Vaux and Frederick Withers.
3. Alterations and additions: Some time around 1931-34 under the direction of Percy Hanaford, alterations were made to provide a doctor's office and two examining rooms. The porch store room and part of the kitchen of the original house were altered for the doctor's office. Two examining rooms were added to the east on the first floor and a conservatory and a porch on the second. During these alterations, the gas lighting was converted to electricity.

- B. Historical Context: Halsey R. Stevens, born in Enfield, Grafton County, New Hampshire, in 1800, was the Port Master and Justice of the Peace of East Lebanon, New Hampshire. He emigrated to Newburgh in 1851 and became an associate partner of a lumber company. He was Village Trustee from 1857 to 1859, and Director of the Highland Bank in 1863. Stevens was also a Scriptural Scholar and the author of Scripture Speculations (1875) and Faith and Reason (1879).

Prepared by:
Eleni Silverman
Architectural Historian, HABS
June 1984
Field report by:
Helen Ver Nooy Gearn
Historian, Newburgh
May 1969

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character: A fine example of the Gothic-Revival architecture produced by such firms as Downing and Vaux.
2. Condition of the fabric: Good.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: The three story house measures approximately 65' x 85' on a rectangular plan.
2. Foundations: Brick.
3. Wall Construction: Brick, now painted white. Originally, the brick was painted cream or buff with a darker trim.
4. Porches: The house has a recessed porch within the gabled projection at the main entrance with a balcony within in the second floor. There is a partially enclosed veranda on the rear, and a glass enclosed conservatory at the southeast corner.
5. Chimneys: There are three brick chimneys.
6. Openings:

- a. Doorways and doors: There are three doorways: the main entrance in the recessed porch; a side entrance to the north; and an entrance to the rear veranda.
- b. Windows: Typical windows are double hung wood sash, four-over-four lights, with wooden shutters.

One mullioned stained-glass casement window is located in the center of the second floor rear elevation, at the stair landing. It has two roundels depicting a galleon at sea. (See photographs NY-6232-7 and NY-6232-8.)

7. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: The roof has a complex form with hipped and gabled projections and gabled dormers. The sloping roofs are covered with green and purple Vermont slate in a striped pattern.

- b. Cornice: There is a deep, bracketed wooden cornice.
- c. Dormers, towers: There are two gabled dormers with verge boards on either end.

C. Site:

- 1. General Setting: The house faces west on Grand Street, and once had a lovely view from the rear window of the Hudson River (see photographs NY-6232-B-1).
- 2. Outbuildings: There is a two-story brick carriage house (NY-6232-A) just to the rear and a brick firehouse (NY-6232-B) beyond between the Halsey Stevens House and the William Hasbrouck House (HABS No. NY-6255).

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April 1969

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. Primary and unpublished sources:

Mrs. James C. Donovan (widow of former owner), Dogwood Lane,
Balmville, Newburgh, New York

Mr. Thomas Chadwick (nephew of former owner), Balmville, Newburgh,
New York

Mrs. Raymond Rowles, present owner, 22 Pierce's Road, Newburgh, New
York

B. Secondary and published sources:

Nutt, John J. Newburgh, Newburgh Journal, 1891